

First Presbyterian Church of Youngstown

The Sixth Sunday of Easter
Celebration of the Lord's Supper

May 5, 2024

11:00 a.m.

* Please rise in body or in spirit.

Bolded words indicate unison responses from the congregation.

REFLECTION FOR WORSHIP

The following scriptures from the Revised Common Lectionary and reflection are provided for meditation as we prepare for worship.

Acts 10:44-48, Psalm 98, 1 John 5:1-6, John 15:9-17

Reflection on Acts 10:44-48: *We should be careful preaching these stories in the church. Those who are hearing the voice of God, the young who have visions and the old who dream dreams (Acts 2:17; Joel 2:28), might just be empowered to speak truth, share their visions, tell of their dreams. Or perhaps if we do preach these words, we should be prepared to be led to the threshold to cross a boundary.*

- Jeffrey D. Peterson-Davis, on the Sixth Sunday of Easter
in *Daily Feast: Meditations from Feasting on the Word, Year B*

WE GATHER

Piano Prelude: *II. Andantino, from Sonatina, Op. 13, No. 1 (1930)* Dmitri Kabalevsky

Welcome and Announcements Karen Cooper

WE PRAISE

*Call to Worship

We come to join with all the earth in praise:

**to sing a new song to the Lord,
who has done marvelous things,
who has shown us steadfast love and faithfulness.**

We praise the Lord with joyful noises

joining the symphony of the earth:

**the roar of the ocean,
the call of the birds,
the wind across the hills,
people in every corner of the globe.**

On this sabbath day of rest and gladness,

we greet you with joy, our living God!

*Hymn #26

Earth and All Stars

EARTH AND ALL STARS

WE CONFESS

Call to Confession

There is nothing that can separate us from God's love. Therefore, let's confess our sins, trusting that God will forgive us and help us transform our lives.

Prayer of Confession

Tender God, forgive us for our half-hearted faith that loves only when it is easy, and reaches out only to those who are like us, that ignores your less convenient commandments and fails to bear fruit anyone would rejoice in. How can a faith like that conquer the world? Nourish us again, to

blossom with whole-hearted faith that abides in your love and shines forth with joy. Through the grace of Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Hear the Good News! The only one who can judge us calls us friends.

Jesus chose us over his own life, so let us choose Jesus in the life we have now.

By the power of the Spirit, our sins are washed away, and we are made new.

Let us live as God's forgiven children. Alleluia! Amen.

***Gloria #581**

Glory Be to the Father

GREATOREX

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost:
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, Amen.*

***Sharing the Peace of Christ**

The Peace of Christ be with you!

And also with you!

WE LISTEN

Prayer of Illumination

Holy Spirit, help us to hear familiar words with fresh ears, and to take your Holy Word to us seriously, as guide and pattern for our lives. Amen.

New Testament Lesson

John 15:9-17

Pg. 878

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Epistle Lesson

1 John 5:1-6

Pg. 991

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalter:

Psalm 98

Pam Root, Cantor

Peter R. Hallock

Book of Common Prayer, alt.

All the ends of the
earth have seen the sal - va - tion of our God.

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The Acts of the Apostles

Acts 10:44-48

Pg. 895

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Acts of Faith: Then and Now

Rev. Payne Warner

How do we tell the story?

***Affirmation of Faith**

We believe in the triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, who gathers, protects and cares for the church through Word and Spirit. This, God has done since the beginning of the world, and will do to the end.

We believe that Christ's work of reconciliation is made manifest in the church, as the community of believers who have been reconciled with God and with one another; that unity is, therefore, both a gift and an obligation for the Church of Jesus Christ.

We believe that this unity of the people of God must be manifested and be active in a variety of ways: in that we love one another, and that we experience, practice and pursue community with one another.

We believe that the variety of spiritual gifts, opportunities, backgrounds, convictions, as well as the various languages and cultures, are by virtue of the reconciliation in Christ, opportunities for mutual service and enrichment within the one visible people of God. Jesus is Lord. Amen.

WE DEDICATE

Call for the Offering

Offertory Anthem: *Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing* Craig Courtney
David Pratt, Pam Root, and Emily Slaven

***Response of Thanksgiving** *God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending* BEACH SPRING
*God, whose giving knows no ending, from your rich and endless store,
nature's wonder; Jesus' wisdom, costly Cross, grave's shattered door:
gifted by you, we return to you, offering up ourselves in praise;
thankful song shall rise forever, gracious donor of our days.*

*Prayer of Dedication

Generous God, we bring you our offerings today, and ask that you bless them. Bless the money in the plates that it might be saved, stewarded and spent in ways that honor you. Bless the tasks we will undertake this week that we might be coworkers in your coming kingdom. Bless the hours of our week – 167 until we meet again – that our lives may be our offering to you. Bless us to be blessings in this world. Amen.

Communion (See Insert)

***Hymn #39** *Great Is Thy Faithfulness* FAITHFULNESS

*Benediction

Organ Postlude: *Improvisation on "TRURO"* Larry Harris
*"Christ is alive, and comes to bring good news to this and every age,
till all the earth and sky and ocean ring with joy, with justice, love, and praise."*

**WE SCATTER TO CONTINUE OUR WORSHIP
IN SERVING OTHERS**

A warm welcome is extended to all who worship today.
May the gift of worship we offer honor God and serve as a blessing to you.

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WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. Payne Warner
Karen Cooper

Margie Patterson
Julie Miller

Marilyn Shakley

THE MUSIC TODAY

Prof. Larry Harris, Director of Music/Organist
The Motet Choir

ALSO SERVING TODAY

Ushers: David Burnette, Darrell McClendon

Facilities Staff: David Phibbs

WORSHIP NOTES

Most of our liturgies today were written for the *Presbyterian Outlook* by the Rev. Carol Holbrook Prickett.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- You are invited to join the Woodman family on **Saturday, May 11** to celebrate the life of Nancy Woodman. There will be a time of **visitation in the Parlor at 10:00 a.m.** and **the Memorial Service will be at 11:00 a.m.** in the Sanctuary.

Weekly Reminders:

- We are still collecting items for **RAHAB Ministries**. Please place donations in the box in the Narthex.
- Please submit **prayer requests** on the cards in the pew racks or by emailing pastor@fpcyo.org.
- Remember to sign the **Friendship Pads**. They help keep track of people who may need assistance.
- Coin offerings go to support the **Red Door Café** at **St. John's Episcopal Church**.
- We will next celebrate **Communion** on **Sunday, May 19** for Pentecost.

Community Events:

- **Spaghetti Dinner:** Our Scout Troop, Troop 55, will be hosting a Spaghetti Dinner in the Helen Chapel **today, from Noon – 5:00 p.m.** It is \$10 for adults and \$6 for children. All are welcome, and please share with friends who would like to support our scouts.
- **Taste of the Faiths** will be on Thursday, May 16, from 5:30-7pm at St. Charles Parish Hall in Boardman.

Prayer Requests:

- Bob Fitch
- Pat Fitch
- Leeann Comstock
- Martin Goss
- Terry Murray
- Rick Benson
- Bridget Benson
- Cindy Milicich
- Barb Altman